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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Shantanu V. Kaushikkar

Examiner: Demetrius R. Pretlow

Serial No: 09/682,074

Group Art Unit: 2863

Filing Date: July 17, 2001

Title: **System, Method, and Computer
Software Product For Specifying A
Scanning Area Of A Substrate**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT/ RESPONSE

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action mailed July 16, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending rejections and reexamination of the present application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including excerpted pages from a merger agreement is attached following page 15 of this paper.